OPINION
Taking on Islamophobia
Meade '20 argues that extremism proliferates acros all religions **page 5**

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
Oscars 2018
Kaback '20 gives his predictions on his year's Academy Awards **page 10**

SPORTS
100 years of Clinton hockey
Men's hockey to play on Saturday at Clinton Arena in celebration **page 16**

The Spectator

Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018
Volume LVIII
Number 17

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Two 30-year History Department veterans to retire by end of 2018

by Erica Ivins '21
Contributing Writer

As 2018 begins, two history professors' time at Hamilton College will soon come to a close. Professor Alfred Kelly has taught on the Hill for 37 years and will retire at the end of the spring semester. Professor Robert Paquette, who has taught at Hamilton for thirty years, plans to retire this December after taking leave for the 2017-2018 academic year.

In process of filling open positions, each affected department offers different curricular opportunities based on a new professor's interests or the loss of a professor who no longer teaches certain classes.

"Retirements are also moments of renewal. When any faculty member retires, a department may wish to ask for a position in an area that is nothing like that of the retiring professor because they want to explore or offer courses in new areas," Associate Dean of Faculty Onno Oerlemans said. "Or," he added, "the College may wish to move a position from one department to another. This natural turn-over in faculty is one of the ways the College is able to make changes, and because we are in a period in which there are a relatively large number of retirements, there will be some significant changes to curriculum, and this is how it should be."

Professor Kelly also described his excitement for the History Department's new curriculum under the care of new professors, seeing the upcoming changes as important to the changing interests of students.

"A good rule of thumb when deciding a new curriculum is when in doubt, try to do something unfashionable. That's a real historian statement," Kelly explained. "Now what's unfashionable now with professional historians, and has been for the past 40 years, is military history, and there's a big interest in that amongst students. But the professionals don't do much of that anymore, so I'd like to see the department pursue that. I'd also like to see the department get a historian of the Islamic world."

As the chair of the faculty-elected Committee of Academic Policy (CAP), Professor Nathan Goodale works with other members to read through employment proposals from various academic departments and compare the competing interests at the college.

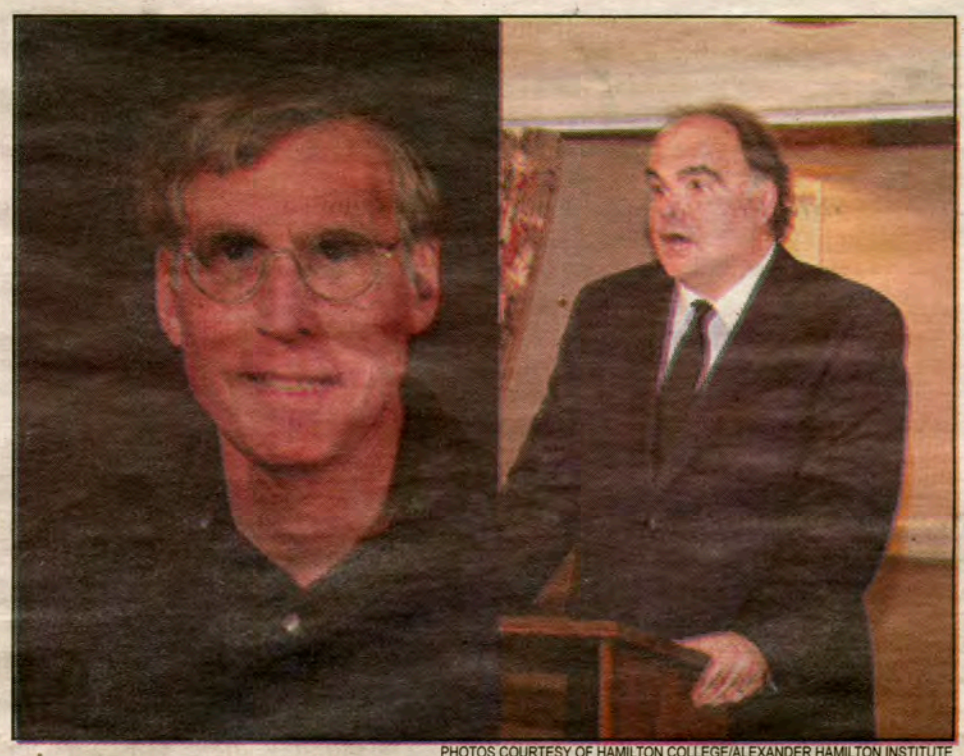
"When Professor X retires, if there's enough advance notice, say a year in advance of planning, then that department is allowed to reallocate that position, but that submission is still in that pool, so all submissions must we weighted against each other," Goodale said. Because Hamilton has a zero-growth policy, meaning there is a hiring cap on the number of employees, requests for faculty positions to be filled cannot be guaranteed.

Despite the needs of department curriculum, faculty recommendations, and students' opinions, a retiring faculty member's position cannot always be replaced in the same department. At the end of the process, the Committee of Academic Policy offers their suggestions to the Dean of Faculty regarding which positions need to be addressed. "We make a recommendation, but there are nowhere near enough positions available that are requested by the departments," explained Goodale.

"This year we have 19 requests and only four positions available, so we work with what we got and try to put those positions where they're most needed."

Kelly collected many proud moments as a professional historian and a professor throughout his time on campus. "One [proud moment] is receiving a note from a former student saying how much your class meant to them years after taking it. When that happens it always brings a smile to your face," said Kelly. "Also, an anthology of Western Civilization documents included my book, *The German Worker*. And I didn't know this was going to happen. But I'm looking through and I see all these various documents and some of them are by famous people and there's mine that just pops up by surprise! That was a great moment."

Reflecting on his 37 years of teaching at Hamilton, Kelly says, "The quality that is needed to be a good teacher is, as my best lecturer remarked, don't bore the students. And so what I try to do most of all is be engaging and provocative and the older you get the easier that is to be because you don't care what the students think and that's important."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/ALEXANDER HAMILTON INSTITUTE

Professor Alfred Kelly (left) plans to retire after the Spring 2018 semester. Professor Robert Paquette (right) plans to retire in December.

Paquette, who was appointed to the faculty in 1988, published extensively over the course of his academic career. *Sugar Is Made With Blood*, his 1988 book, won the Elsa Goveia Prize, given every three years by the Association of Caribbean Historians for the best book in Caribbean history.

In 2005, he received the Mary Young Award for distinguished achievement from University of Rochester, his alma mater. Additionally, he was been awarded grants from the American Historical Association, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Charles Koch Foundation, among others. in 2008, President George W. Bush nominated Paquette for a seat on the National Council of the Endowment for the Humanities. In 2014, Carly Fiorina, on behalf of the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation and the American Conservative Union Foundation, presented Paquette with the Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick Prize for Academic Freedom.

Paquette, in 2007, founded the Alexander Hamilton Institute. He has been repeatedly quoted in articles which have appeared in publications such as *TIME*, *Inside Higher Ed*, and *Reason*, among others. Reason, in 2016, described him as "the only conservative professor at Hamilton." *Campus Reform* similarly notes that "Paquette is the only undergraduate professor from the nation's top 50 liberal arts schools to donate to a Republican candidate for president during this [2016] election cycle."

On Nov. 16, Paquette wrote: "I will not stand idly by and allow professors who think conservatism is a pathology to browbeat right-of-center students into silence."

"For students," he wrote, "I have this advice: caveat emptor. The utopian illusion often masks the totalitarian impulse."

Hamilton mourns death of longtime Physical Plant employee John McGovern

by Benjamin Katz '20
News Editor

On Jan. 28, the Hamilton College community lost a valued member of our community, as John P. McGovern, who worked in Physical Plant for 37 years, passed away after a battle with cancer at the age of 67.

McGovern was born in Oneida, New York to the late Willis and Ada (née Flanagan) McGovern. One of 11 children, McGovern graduated from Oneida High School. He began his career on the Hill in the maintenance department, and rose to become manager of custodial services. During his time at Hamilton, McGovern contributed directly to essential operations of the College and often interacted with students.

At Physical Plant, McGovern served in many different capacities and touched the lives of the fellow employees he worked with and supervised.

Outside of his work, McGovern was a man of many passions, especially when it came to the outdoors. He loved to go kayaking, camping, and hiking. McGovern also relished going on long-road trips and spending time enjoying the beaches on Cape Cod. McGovern also spent many of his winters in Vero Beach, Florida.

According to the funeral home where McGovern was interred, he is survived by his wife Lorraine; his children and their partners, Shane T. and Stacy L. McGovern, and Erica M. and Anthony J. Brindisi; and his grandchildren, Michael A. McGovern; Anthony J. Brindisi Jr., and Lily Grace Brindisi.

He leaves his sisters and brothers-in-law, Donna and Don Kitzmiller, Christine Rose, Mary and Pat Burkhart, and Eileen and Mike Cook; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Michael and Cynthia McGovern, Dan McGovern and Jennifer, Terry and Betty McGovern, George McGovern and Billy and Shirley McGovern. He was preceded by his brother, James McGovern.

McGovern lived his life by the "Golden Rule" — treat others the way you want to be treated — and instilled in his grandchildren the importance of kindness and compassion.

He also lived his life by this quote: "Keep your eyes on the future, but do not lose sight of the present."

FebFest programming set to begin Friday with Olympic Opening Ceremony viewing

by Benjamin Katz '20
News Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

FebFest is an annual event on the Hill sponsored by the Student Assembly Social Traditions committee and the Campus Activities Board.

FebFest, an annual Hamilton tradition meant to provide fun activities and cheer amid what is typically one of the coldest periods of the year, kicks off on Friday, Feb. 9. In past year, Feb Fest has served as a popular distraction as students battle cold weather and demanding academic schedules.

The eight-day celebration was first held at Hamilton in the 1920s, and took a hiatus before returning to the Hill in the early 2000s. FebFest is organized by the Campus Activities Board (CAB), the Office of Student Activities, and the Student Assembly Social Traditions committee.

The festivities will begin this Friday night, with a viewing party in Sadove for the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony beginning at 8 p.m., and beginning an hour later, a CAB sponsored Late-Nite outdoor skating event will be held at Babbit Pavillion.

On Saturday, Hamilton's weekend celebration of 100 years of ice hockey in Clinton will kick off with the first of two games. Down at the Clinton Arena, which was initially constructed in 1948-1949 and formerly hosted a minor league hockey team of the Eastern Hockey League, Hamilton's Continentals will be playing Connecticut College's Camels. On Sunday, the Continentals will play Tufts University on campus.

The following week, CAB has arranged a wide variety of events to appeal to a range of students, faculty, and staff members.

On Monday, there will be a beer tasting sponsored by Ommegang. The CAB comedy show, featuring the Lucas Bros, will also take place on Monday in the Wellin Hall/Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts. Moving forward through the week, CAB will also be sponsoring a chocolate tasting and the Mr. Hamilton pageant in the Annex, in which Hamilton male students from different student organizations are given the chance to compete in a variety of pageant activities and vie for the title of "Mr. Hamilton."

The Women's Hockey Classic, which is is the women's sports verison of the Citrus Bowl, will be held on Friday, Feb. 16. FebFest will conclude on Feb. 17 with a chili cook-off, a bowling trip sponsored by the Bowling Club, and a Student Performing Arts Committee concert that will take place in the Events Barn. The chili cook-off is in its 25th year, though in previous years it has not always been associated with the Feb Fest activities.

Student Assembly holds meeting on funding student organizations, numerous groups denied full funding

by Jonina Mignon '21
Staff Writer

On Jan. 29, Student Assembly met to allocate funds to different student organizations around campus. SA members and organization treasurers came together to work out strategic funding recommendations.

Student organizations are required to submit budget requests in accordance with the Student Assembly constitutional funding rules. Organization leaders are welcome to attend the funding meeting to advocate on their group's behalf, petition to re-submit budget requests if they are not accepted, and work with Student Assembly to compromise on funding.

There can be many factors that play into the process of which student organizations get money and which ones do not. As Gianni Hill '21, the first-year class president states: "We would love to give them all they ask for, but we work with a fixed amount, and there are many variables that play into deciding how much a group will get. Our funding codes contain a list of rules that we follow when allocating funds to groups. They have to submit their budgets on time and included itemized lists with specific prices and dates for their events. If they miss any of those details, we can't offer them funding at the moment and ask them to resubmit."

One such detail is using the given Student Assembly budget request template. Many groups, including the Buffers, Hogwarts at Hamilton, and the Muslim Student Association did not use the correct template in accordance with the Student Assembly funding rules; they therefore did not qualify to have their budget requests considered. These groups will have to resubmit in order to get funding.

Other factors include the specifics of the budget request. For example, student organizations must put exact times and dates to go along with their budgets. Student Assembly will reach out to those groups, and if there is no response, there will be no recommendation for money, but student organizations can re-submit their requests with more details.

Another factor that goes into the process of funding consists of what Student Assembly counts as a 'necessity,' or how money can be moved around and put elsewhere. For example, at the Jan. 29 meeting, Student Assembly suggested the Dance Team check out a speaker for free instead of paying $25 to purchase one. In other instances, like for the American Chemical Society and Model United Nations, student organizations require travel fees for flights and for staying in hotels. To mitigate these costs, Student Assembly works to find cheaper options and find funding in academic departments.

ESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

The Student Assembly, based on applications, distributes funds to student organizations at the College.

Despite the logistics and difficulty of delegating funds to student organizations, Student Assembly takes the responsibility of effectively allocating funds very seriously.

"When deciding what to fund, I think about how many students will be impacted by the funding," Hill explains. "However, it's not always about the number. I also think there are many worthy causes where groups request funding for six people to do something of merit, and I think it's important to give students the opportunity to have useful life experiences as well.

It changes on a case-by-case basis, but the Assembly hashes these decisions out, and we always do our best to spend our money in the most effective way."

Economics Department announces changes to introductory sequence curriculum

by Noelle Connors '19
Staff Writer

Following the passing of the Structural and Social Institutional Hierarchies (SSIH) requirement, the Economics Department decided to reexamine the requirements for obtaining a concentration in the department. The department is now proposing changes to the introductory economics sequence. These proposed changes still have yet to be approved by the Committee on Academic Policy, but the department has redesigned Economics requirements to reflect the department's shifting priorities.

The current introductory sequence is: one semester of Issues in Economics 101, Microeconomics, and one semester of Economics 102, Issues in Macroeconomics. This sequence will be replaced with a one semester introductory course combining the principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics.

The second course in the introductory sequence will be Economics 166, Economic Theory and Evidence. The new course will teach students statistical methods and how to complete labs which allow them to explore the connections between social categories and social and economic impacts.

The department's proposal lists sample topics including "environmental justice, the inflation/unemployment tradeoff for people in different social categories, the impact of fiscal and monetary policy on individuals in various social categories, and the impact of international trade on inequality." Students in this course will use statistical software including Microsoft Excel and Stata for data analysis.

The changes in introductory courses will also shift other courses in the department. Economics 265, Statistics will be replaced with Introduction to Economics 266, Econometrics, which will cover more advanced material as some of the previous materials in 265 will now be covered in 166. Additionally, the enrollment cap in Economics 275 and 285, Introduction to Microeconomic Theory and Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory, will be reduced from forty to twenty-seven because they will be more in-depth courses. Since the introduction sequence is now only one semester, some of the material will be added to 275 and 285, so more class discussions and presentations will be included to further explore the material.

Professor Elizabeth Jensen of the Economics Department described the benefits of the changes, stating that she and the department "see two important benefits of the new introductory sequence." The first of these benefits, according to Jensen, is that "students will be introduced earlier in the major to the research methods used by economists." The second major benefit of the new changes to the economics introductory sequence, says Jensen, is that "students will have a chance to apply those methods to investigate how economists incorporate race, class, gender, and ethnicity into economic models and seek evidence for differential outcomes based on these social categories."

This new sequence was designed by the Economics faculty to provide a strong introduction to the department for both concentrators and non-concentrators.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, January 29

2:17 A.M. Parking Enforcement – Faculty Lots

9:01 A.M. Area Check – 60 College Hill Road

Tuesday, January 30

1:08 A.M. CO Alarm – Sage Rink

2:17 A.M. Assist Physical Plant – Sage Rink

5:53 A.M. Intrusion Alarm – Wellin Museum

9:33 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Wednesday, January 31

7:58 A.M. Parking Complaint – Griffin Road Apts.

8:57 A.M. Criminal Mischief/Larceny – Ferguson House

8:07 P.M. Maintenance Issue – Dunham Hall

Thursday, February 1

12:29 A.M. Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.

1:08 A.M. Fire – Kirner Johnson

11:35 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

2:02 P.M. Check the Welfare – Residence Hall

2:56 P.M. Elevator Alarm – Beinecke Village

7:36 P.M. Parking Complaint – Major Lot

11:24 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Friday, February 2

1:23 A.M. Area Check – Visitor Lot

5:17 A.M. Noise Complaint –Saunders House

4:34 P.M. Motorist Assist – Root Lot

4:35 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Burke Library Simplex Panel

5:49 P.M. Maintenance Issue – Taylor Science

8:10 P.M. Mechanical Issue – Woollcott House

9:48 P.M. Smoke Detector – South Hall

10:25 P.M. Smoke Detector – Babbitt Hall

Saturday, February 3

12:58 A.M. Maintenance Issue – Skenandoa House

1:59 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

3:13 A.M. Noise Complaint – Bundy West

6:38 P.M. Area Check – Alumni Gym

6:50 P.M. Mechanical Issue – Beinecke Village

6:56 P.M. Mechanical Issue – Bundy West

7:00 P.M. Mechanical Issue – Dunham Hall

9:12 P.M. Assist – Ferguson House

Sunday, February 4

1:01 A.M. Noise Complaint – Carnegie Hall

1:16 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

1:34 A.M. Noise Complaint – Saunders House

1:45 A.M. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall

1:08 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident – Ferguson Lot

3:30 P.M. Marijuana Complaint – North Hall

Letter to the Editor re: Feb. 1 "Congressman Tonko blasts Trump, GOP at on-campus Brindisi fundraiser"

I write with an important clarification about the Anthony Brindisi fundraiser at the Little Pub on Sunday, January 28, and in response to *The Spectator* article about it that could be read as implying some sort of College partisan impropriety. No Hamilton College organization, including the Hamilton College Democrats, contributed any financial support, whether in cash or in any other kind, to the event. The Hamilton College Democrats were co-hosts but not co-sponsors, and their support was limited to moral (and some public relations). I was the event's sole sponsor and funder.

Sincerely,

Katheryn Doran
Associate Professor and Chair, Philosophy Department

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

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Please Recycle Your Copy of *The Spectator*

Celebrating 170 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

So you're scared of Islam? By that logic, you should be scared of Christianity as well

by Gavin Meade '20
OPINION EDITOR

Since the 45th President of the United States took office last January, the social, economic, and cultural landscape of the US has shifted. For the average American, these changes are not terribly pronounced. Sure, their taxes may go up or down a little, and they may not be able to afford health care, but for the stereotypical white, red-blooded American, there is no worry of physical safety nor cultural belonging. This is not the case for many Muslims living in the United States under reign of President
Trump.

Islam is the most feared and misunderstood religion in America. Despite notions of American diversity, Americans are grossly intolerant of Islam.

For many years after 9/11 the villain in action movies were Islamic terrorists. The film and television industry capitalizes on popular opinion when selecting the archetypal "bad guy" for the silver screen. These days the villains tend to be Russian or vaguely North Korean, again reflecting the zeitgeist of American mob mentality. Perhaps the term "American" here is disingenuous and I should be more specific. A Pew Researech Center survey found, in 2017, that Republicans, white evangelicals, and those with less education are much more likely to express reservations about Muslims and Islam than any other group of Americans. On their "feeling thermometer" from zero to one-hundred where absolute zero indicates the most negative possible rating and one-hundred the highest possible favor rating. The average Democrats rated Islam at 56 while Republicans and those leaning towards the Republican party came in at a cool 39. 63 percent of Republican respondents believe that Islam incites violence while only 26 percent of Democrats agreed with that statement. Additionally, Republicans also are more likely than Democrats to say that Islam is not part of mainstream American society (68 percent vs. 37 percent) and that there is a natural conflict between Islam and democracy (65 percent vs. 30 percent) according to Pew Research Center.

Why are there so many disjointed opinions on Islam? What or who propagates the misinformation and stigma about one of the world's oldest religions?

The first answer that pops into my head when asking this question is Donald Trump. Trump's campaign was built on the maintained notion of an "us vs them" mentality when it comes to Islam. In the first six months of Trump's presidency there was a 91 percent increase in anti-Muslim hate crimes. From his retweets of Jayda Fransen, the notorious leader of the far-right Britain First organization and virulent anti-Muslim bigot, to his declaration in an interview March 9, 2016 with CNN that, "Islam hates us," Trump has shown time and time again his disdain and fear of Islam.

The President of the United States is supposed to make every citizen feel safe in their country, (yes Donald it's their country too) not incite violence and fear against a group of people that have done nothing wrong.

The notion that radical Islam is a direct result of the teachings of the Quran and the indication that violence is an inherent part of Islamic society is incorrect and dangerous.

There are three areas that must be understood when discussing radical Islam: the role of global politics that have destabilized regions and inflamed tensions, how dysfunctional states create an opening for extremism, and finally, how religion fills the gaps created by international and domestic uncertainties according to Hassan Hassan, *ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror*.

When looking for the source of extremist groups, we should look not at Islam but at ourselves. Hassan argues that the emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) has more to do with U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East than with the Quaran. Hespecifically notes how its military interventions have changed the region. Consider the U.S. Coalition Provisional Authority's 2003 order to dissolve the Iraqi Armed Forces. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers were left angry and unemployed, and many of these individuals now provide militants with military expertise and training.

Another example of the United States' role in stoking extremism is its support for the U.N. policies on Israel. In 2003, John Austin, a former British Parliamentarian, wrote an article for the Palestinian non-governmental organization (NGO) Miftah citing conflicts from Kosovo to East Timor to Iraq to Rwanda. In each of those cases, the U.N. imposed enforcement measures such as arms embargos, and international tribunals to prosecute crimes against humanity. Yet on Israel's illegal building of settlements, there has been no action despite numerous U.N. resolutions dating back to the late 1970s often because of U.S. intervention on its behalf. Extremist vergions of religion serves to fill a power vacuum and is able to be used by authoritarian leaders to fulfill their crusade and lend credibility to their power pursuits. Christian terror groups are not often discussed in the media but they exist and are also responsible for atrocious acts of violence. Christian militia group "Anti-balaka" is responsible for the destruction of almost all mosques in the Central African Republic. The Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda made headlines when a documentary/YouTube campaign went viral discussing the horrors perpetrated by the Christian organization. In the United States eleven people have been killed by christian motivated attacks on abortion clinics. Radical Christianity exists everywhere where there is Christianity, as is the case with Islam and radical Islam.

Regardless of the inherent logic of the argument and the facts that I've presented, people still love to point to radical Islam as defining Islam while keeping their heads in the sand when it comes to radical Christianity. Both the Bible and the Quran incite violence against non-believers, speak against homosexuality, keep women subdued, speak to owning servants of other faiths, and much more. The teachings of Muhammad are not inherently that much different than the teachings in the Bible.

The differences lie in the social, political, and cultural landscapes in which the religions were molded and identified. The permission given in Quran 22:40-41 to fight was only given to "those against whom war is waged." Fighting wasn't just to defend Muslims from persecution – but to defend Christians, Jews, and people of all faiths. All subsequent verses addressing fighting are pre-conditioned on these clearly outlined rules of self-defense. Otherwise, it's cherry-picking, something the Quran forbids as perverse.

Another thing that islamaphobes love to claim is that Muslims endorse terrorism even if they aren't terrorists themselves. One student at the University of Colorado, Herra Hashmi, was tired of the claims that Muslims were not making a stand against terrorism. She compiled a 712-page Google-Doc citing instances of Muslims denouncing specific acts of terror with sources and posted it. Within a week of sending out the tweet, a website was made that holds all the statements and is updated. The site is muslimcondemn.com. When asked about the site and about her initial tweet, Hashimi spoke to the ridiculous expectation that Muslims are constantly expected to apologize for terrorist acts. Muslims, notes Hashmi, are "held to a different standard than other minorities: 1.6 billion people are expected to apologize and condemn [terrorism] on behalf of a couple of dozen lunatics. It makes no sense." After all, Hashmi, says, "I don't view the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) or the Westboro Baptist Church or the Lord's Resistance Army as accurate representations of Christianity. I know that they're on the fringe. So it gets very frustrating having to defend myself and having to apologize on behalf of some crazy people."

No one on this campus, or anywhere in any walk of life, should feel unsafe or persecuted because of their religion. Islam is a beautiful religion of peace, brotherhood, and camaraderie. Those individuals who justify violence or extremism are not true Muslims. As Egyptian theologian Feisal Abdul Rauf puts it, "Fanatacism and terrorism and have no place in Islam."

Thumbs Up

Wearing furs:. There's a reason why animals have it, and we both arrived independently at the conclusion that it looks amazing on everyone. It's cold out, and furs are elegant. Just indulge!

Justin Trudeau saying "people-kind" instead of mankind. This was hot and you know it. He interrupted that woman and gave a really cool, dimpled grin after he said it.

Thumbs Down

Professors who pay you in cash. It's rough when you have to drive 20 minutes out to the nearest Bank of America ATM to make a deposit, let me assure you. Basically I'm a fan of Venmo, that Cash app that everyone keeps talking about, and, like, favors you can hold over people's heads. Physical bills? Did you see them in that list?

Who Cares?

Dangerous roads. We've legit seen like five cars on the side of the road, basically crashed into things in the past week. It's dynamic, it's new, it's hot. But there's danger, too. How do you feel?

by Zachary Deming '20 and Ethan Dunn '20

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

How Hamilton can make the winter season more enjoyable for students on campus

by Robert Berk '20
Staff Writer

It is looking like another week of subfreezing temperatures, consistent snow, and painful walks from the library to Kirner-Johnson (KJ). Everyone knows that the winters in Central New York are brutal, and it does not seem like we can do much about it. The freezing cold winter months change the mood of the entire campus.

Recently, there has been increased awareness around Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a mood disorder characterized by depression that appears as a response to the long and dark winter months. SAD has serious symptoms, such as low energy levels, being unable to concentrate, and having changes in appetite. Although an increase in awareness around this issue is beneficial, it is not enought to solve this problem.

Unlike many other cold weather schools, Hamilton has very few winter activities to improve these months. Hamilton should implement new programming to make winter fun on the Hill. While creating something similar to the January Term offered at Middlebury and Bates would be the best solution, this would involve changing the core curriculum and is ultimatly unrealistic. Despite this, there are still numerous activities could brighten the mood on campus and lift people's spirits.

First, I'll start with skiing and snowboarding activities. Most skiing options are far away and expensive. What if instead of a big ski trip at the end of Winter Break there were several ski trips throughout the first weekends of the semester? If Hamilton subsidized the transportation and equipment more students would have the option to enjoy a ski trip.

Second, I suggest the creation of an outdoor ice rink. Many Hamilton students grew up ice skating, and even those that did not may want to learn or try with friends. HamSkate events may be well attended, but imagine a small outdoor rink on the quad between Commons and Dunham. Students would be able to skate outside whenever they please.

Third, I suggest an intramural snow football league. There is already flag football in the fall, why not in the winter? A field could easily be organized on the quad in front of South and the Chapel.

So far my first three ideas all involve the outdoors and athletics. Now I will share three potential fun indoor winter activities.

One of my favorite ways to spend cold winter nights with my family is to do puzzles. What if there was a bi-weekly puzzle competition? There could be different levels of difficulty based on the number of pieces in a puzzle. All students competing in a given level would have the same puzzle and would race to complete it.

A similar idea is a cooking competition. Students could cook whatever they wanted, be it cookies or chili. A panel of judges would perform a blind taste test and judge the contestants. Good food and some friendly competition — what could go wrong?

Another idea is to have weekly movie screenings on campus. What is a better way to spend a frigid day than indoors with some friends watching a movie? The films could be educational documentaries, and a professor could lead a discussion after the film. This could be hosted in the newly furnished Sadove basebemt. It would be a fun way to incorporate this new social space into the lives of students.

Finally, the biggest (and least realistic) idea. Hamilton College should consider altering its schedule. If the administration removed a couple days off of Spring Break and created a long weekend without class in the middle of February, perhaps students could experience a truly relaxing and fun "Feb Fest." I cannot wait for the Lucas Brothers to come next week, but still have class that day and the next. What if we had off a Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday? All of the programming ideas I mentioned earlier could be packed into these couple days. This would allow students to catch up on work and sleep or enjoy the fun activities with their friends.

While I have written about the importance of mental health days before, I believe they are even more important in the painfully cold winter. This is a serious issue and really should be changed to improve the lives of students on campus. Let's work together to make positive change so that winter on the Hill can be not only bearable, but even fun!

Star Wars: The Last Jedi's story of resistance reflects today's political climate

by Julia Dupuis '20
Staff Writer

Even though *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* was one of the most successful blockbusters of 2017, there was no shortage of backlash from fans angry at the direction of the new film. Many reviewers took issue with the "political agenda" behind its creation.

At the core of this criticism is a deeply rooted discomfort with the idea of women taking authority in a narrative that has long been geared towards men.

Not only does *The Last Jedi* question its own legacy, but it takes on a serious responsibility as a blockbuster with deep social and cultural influence. The *Star Wars* franchise is now faced with a new challenge — distancing itself from the most toxic elements of the old films and exploring more progressive terrain.

In *The Last Jedi*, women are the life force of the Rebellion, even as it hangs on by a thread. The future of the Jedi is on the shoulders of Rey, a woman who has finally claimed her place as the hero of this story, despite the claims of the villain Kylo Ren that she is "nothing." Leia has taken on a new role as a revered general, and her second-in-command Holdo is charged with the task of saving the last members of the Resistance.

There is a refreshing lack of sexualization for its female characters. Not once are any of the women shown in a sexualized manner or a state of undress. No more lingering shots of Leia's bikini or Padmé's midriff-baring outfitsas in previous installments in the series.

Not only are women portrayed realistically on screen, but the film directly opposes the culture of toxic masculinity that dominated the old franchise.

In the original films, Han was depicted as a dashing, heroic character who saved the day with his impulsivity and surefire confidence. He never failed to weasel his way out of difficult situations with his roguish charm.

The Star Wars universe created a willful delusion where Han's brand of arrogant, impulsive masculinity was propped up by a narrative that allowed him to get away with every decision he made, often without realistic consequences.

The Last Jedi refuses to play this game.

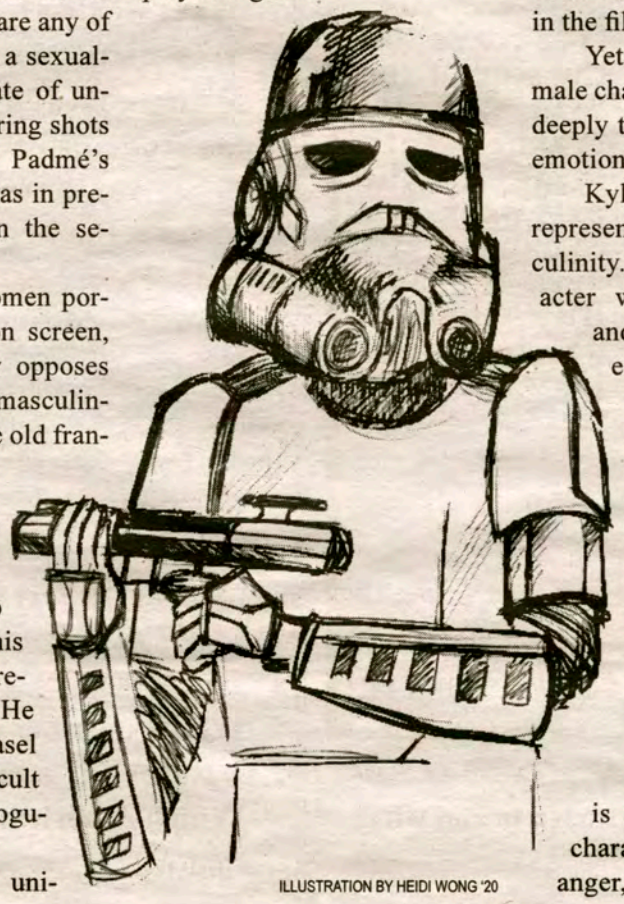


ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

Poe's rogue dreams of heroism, including his plan to send Rose and Finn to infiltrate the First Order, ends in devastating failure. His rash decisions end up getting most of the Resistance killed. His arrogance and utter contempt for female authority lead him to become the biggest liability in the film.

Yet Poe is not the only male character whose flaws are deeply tied to masculinity and emotional incompetence.

Kylo Ren is a textbook representation of toxic masculinity. He might be a character whose childish antics and temper tantrums are easy to mock, but there is something deeply unsettling at the core of his character, something that many women can relate to. His source of villainy lies in the fact that he reminds us of real-world men.

It all comes down to one issue: Kylo Ren feels he is owed something. His character is grounded in anger, frustration and sadness — emotion that twisted into something ugly inside of him, leading him to lash out in bursts of entitled rage.

The Last Jedi only replicates what the previous films have done — it reflects the social and political context of its time. Today's villain is not the terrifying, all-powerful Darth Vader. Our villain is the petty, vindictive Kylo Ren.

Star Wars has always been a franchise steeped in male ownership and authority, and viewers deserve to see more progressive social realities play out on screen. Women are capable of being strong, wise leaders and toxic masculinity is the biggest threat that stands in their way.

Despite the backlash towards the film, this is a sign that the franchise is moving in the right direction. *Star Wars* has always been a story about resistance — fighting an authoritarian regime in the face of overwhelming odds. It has always been deeply political and closely tied to the social climate of its viewers.

Now, in 2018, our resistance has changed. And finally, *Star Wars* is changing with it.

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Lauren Troy '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hometown: *New York City.*
Home on Campus: *The Beast! (Bundy East.)*
Major: *Psychology.*
Turn on? *Deep in the memes.*
Turn off? *Anything having to do with Trump.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *The Co-Op because it is boujee on the outside (it's real name is Woolcott House), but it's crunchy on the inside.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Chad Kroeger from Nickelback and DJ Khaled. Just think about it.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"The snack that smiles back."*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *Are you Flappy Bird? Because I want to tap you all night.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Memes, bacon, good tunes.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Annex bathroom. Don't deny that this is the most social space on campus.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Opus staff.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Park anywhere I wanted.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Kylie Jenner and Travis Scott's baby.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The boy who sniffs all the apples in commons.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Anyone who has yet to step foot in the Blood Fitness Center.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *My bedside table is a cardboard box.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Wearing clothes inappropriate for the weather (i.e.: shorts when it is 10 degrees outside).*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *I'd be bacon because even though I can be salty I am also the best food ever and the most delicious.*
Lights on or lights off? *Very dim lighting. I want to see/be seen, but not well.*
Favorite campus study spot? *CJ first floor.*
What's the last lie you told? *I told myself I was not overwhelmed by the amount of work I had to do.*
What was your first thought this morning? *I hope the shower isn't freezing cold today.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Mulan. I wish, at least.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Guy Fieri.*

Caesar

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAESAR

Hometown: *Bolivia.*
Home on Campus: *Apartment above the VT.*
Major: *Anthropology.*
Turn on? *Carrots.*
Turn off? *My leash (physical and mental).*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Dunham. Gotta be where the action is.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Where pets are family."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Animal Planet.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"I'll take the fat one hiding in the corner."*
What's your type? *I'm neutered so I don't have one.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Carrots, my chew toys, and Suelo.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Babbitt common rooms.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The tiki hut I got for Christmas.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *ATX.*
What's your patronus and why? *Taomi Kenny.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *I think that's pretty obvious.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Janet Jackson.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Justin Timberlake.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Lili Christi.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *I haven't met any faculty.*
What would your perfect date be*? Carrots and chill?*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Probably me.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Me.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Strawberries.*
Lights on or lights off? *Lights on.*
Favorite campus study spot? *Once again, my tiki hut.*
What's the last lie you told? *"I'm a goldfish."*
What was your first thought this morning? *My cage smells.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Raven's replacement in the* Cheetah Girls.
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Gloria Estefan. She taught us how to conga.*

Paper mache for your bae and other crafty things...

by Bethany Vickery '20
FEATURES EDITOR

With Valentine's Day fast approaching, it's time to start getting festive! Try these fun and easy projects to get in the Valentine's spirit!

1 Friendship Valentines

Make your friends your Valentines. Rather than just focusing on a special someone, take this opportunity to show all the important people in your life some love.

You will need: paper, pens, a kind message, and lots of decorations. (We recommend rhinestones for a touch of class).

Step 1: Fold your piece of paper in half, and draw half a heart on one side.

Step 2: Cut out a heart shape, fill the inside with a lovely message, and decorate!

2 Festive Room Decorations

Make heart-shaped bunting for your room! It's the February version of a Christmas tree. What better way to get in the Valentine's Day spirit than to decorate for the occasion?

You will need: colored paper, a hole punch, string or ribbon

Step 1: Cut out as many little paper hearts as you want following the steps from before. The more hearts, the more bunting!

Step 2: Punch a hole in each heart, then string the ribbon or string through them. To hold each heart in place, you can try tying the string around each individual heart as you go along.

Step 3: Hang your bunting up on the wall!

3 Dorm-Safe Mood Lighting

Ever wanted to get yourself in the mood, but worried about fire safety hazards? This Valentine's Day, you can have it all.

You will need: mason jar, tissue paper of varying red and pinks, scissors, lots of Elmer's glue, paint brush, LED tea light.

Step 1: Clean and empty your mason jar.

Step 2: Cut out your tissue paper into hearts of varying sizes.

Step 3: Coat the jar with glue. Then stick your tissue paper hearts on before it dries.

Step 4: Cover everything in one final coat of glue.

Step 5: Insert your LED tea light and bask in the fire-safe glow of love.

4 Chocolate Dipping Sauce

Chocolate dipped... anything. This obviously doesn't have to be only a Valentines' Day snack—chocolate is for every day—but chocolate dipped treats are a great Valentine's Day gift!

You will need: microwave, bowl, chocolate, butter or oil, snacks to dip.

Step 1: Break up the chocolate into small pieces, then place in a bowl with 1-2 tablespoons of oil or butter.

Step 2: Microwave until melted, stirring occasionally.

Step 3: Dip your treats in the melted chocolate, let them cool, and enjoy!

Tip: Some snack dipping ideas: strawberries, marshmallows, or pretzels.

2 Festive Ceiling Mobiles

This Valentine's Day you can send notes to your special friends or improve the ambience of your dorm room. But have you ever taken a chance to look up? Maybe this Feb 14 you will with these heart-themed ceiling hangings.

You will need: tissue paper, colored paper, scissors, string, glue, tape.

Step 1: Cut the tissue paper into small squares and cut your colored paper into hearts.

Step 2: Scrunch up the tissue paper and stick it onto the hearts, creating a nice texture.

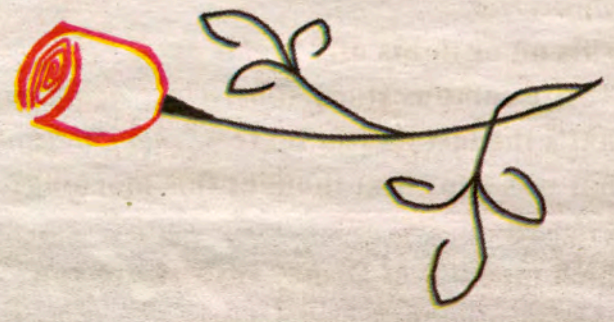
Step 3: Cut a hole in the top and thread some string through the hole.

Step 4: Hang from your ceiling with tape.

Step 5: Feel like a child again, staring up at a themed mobile. These decorations can even last you long past Valentine's Day with the right colors.

Email us at featspec@hamilton.edu and let us know if you did any of these crafts and if you'd like more DIY ideas.

Jealous you weren't picked to be the Bachelorette or Bachelor of the week? Nominate yourself or others by emailing featspec@hamilton.edu



Hamilton tragedies

The following is a list of sad moments that *The Spectator* staff experiences. These moments sometimes occur on an all-too-regular basis, and other times they are infrequent, but disappointing enough to make it on this list.

When you walk up to the rice cooker in McEwen and it is empty.

When the bridge is covered in a thick coat of snow, and you slip on the decline from KJ, right in front of Diner and all of its inhabitants.

Speaking of which: when your favorite meal at the diner takes 20 minutes to make, such as the vegetable wrap, grilled cheese, or onion rings (depending on the fry cycle).

When the College cancels classes, but your afternoon professor insists that you still all show up.

When you want a smoothie, but no one is there, and the jugs are empty.

When your boots aren't high enough, so the snow is coming down and landing in your shoes. Fast forward 10 minutes, and your socks are soaked.

When you are in the last minute of class, and a student raises their hand to ask a question.

When the KJ Writing Center printers are broken, and you have class and an unprinted reading.

When someone on your floor does not flush the toilet.

When you bundle up to walk from Minor to the library but start sweating at the crosswalk.

When Commons is out of your favorite ice cream flavor.

When the hot chocolate machines are not working.

When your cup is 1/5 beer, 4/5 foam.

When Opus runs out of cookies or breakfast on Sundays.

When you forget what the sun looks like.

What's on the menu?
THIS SPRING

LATE NITE
@Hamilton
SPRING 2018 SCHEDULE
BABBITT PAVILION ICE RINK
2.9
Join CAB Special Events for a Late Nite of outdoor ice skating! Ice skates will be provided and hot chocolate will be served to stay warm! This CAB event also supports the 100 Years of Hockey at Hamilton Celebration Weekend!
FYE: AFTER HOURS
2.23
Show off your singing abilities, or lack thereof. There will be mocktails and snacks and a healthy dose of Karaoke!
HOGSMEADE FAIR
3.2
Leave the muggle world behind for a night in Hogsmeade. There will be dancing, Harry Potter themed activities, and plenty of (non-alcoholic) butterbeer!
EL BAILE
3.30
El Baile represents an important aspect of Latinx culture dance. Tropical Sol will perform and teach dance lessons for salsa and bachata. Join us for a night of dancing and eating the Latinx way!
BOB ROSS & GREENERY
4.6
Channel your inner Bob Ross and join your RAs for a night of painting and greenery. Paint your own pot and plant succulents to take home while Bob Ross videos play. Relax and paint some happy trees with us!
BAR MITZVAH PARTY
4.20
Having FOMO because you've never been to a Bar Mitzvah? Hillel invites you to a Bar Mitzvah to bring back the nostalgia of a high school dance. Traditional Bar Mitzvah games will be played and food will be served!
YODAPEZ'S TACO BELL SHOW
4.27
Come to an improv show complete with plenty of wacky prizes and a hearty dose of audience participation! There will be Taco Bell. After the show there'll be two improv workshops and a screening of Mike Birbiglia's 2016 critic-darling "Don't' Think Twice"

Predicting the 2018 Academy Award winners

by Will Kaback '20
Managing Editor

Admittedly, I have only had a passing interest in the Oscars prior to last year. I have always enjoyed movies, but for the most part, I only took the time to see the major releases and paid little attention to small-budget or indie films that, while receiving critical acclaim, rarely garnered wide popularity.

2016 ignited an interest in film that must have laid dormant in me years prior. I suspect the length and relative inactivity of Hamilton's winter break had something to do with it, as well as the overlap between our break and the time of year when the best movies are usually released.

All in all, I saw ten movies in theaters over the course of Winter Break 2016, including all of the nominees for best picture. In turn, I experienced a heightened interest in Hollywood's award season, having forged an emotional connection with my favorite movies from that year.

This year, I was determined to go even further. With the help of my MoviePass (cinephiles, check it out), I arrived home for break with a feeling of determination akin to Frances McDormand in *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*. The final tally? Fifteen movies. Over the course of the year, I saw twenty-seven, and while most of the non-December and January ones did not measure up to their wintery counterparts, a few — like *Get Out, Dunkirk*, and *Blade Runner 2049* — held up well.

Here are my predictions for how this year's Academy Awards will play out for the major categories. Some categories like "Best animated feature" and "Best documentary," while popular, are not listed, simply because I did not see enough of the nominated films in those groupings. These picks are not necessarily my own opinion of what film, actor, director, or production team should win; rather they are a forecast based on precedent, prestige, and current standing in popular culture. Later, I will list my personal favorite films of the year.

Best actor in a leading role

Gary Oldman is a heavy favorite to win here, despite a strong field that includes Timothée Chalamet and Daniel Kaluuya, in addition to the legendary Denzel Washington and Daniel Day-Lewis (notably absent: James Franco, who delivered a transformative performance as Tommy Wiseau in *The Disaster Artist* but was likely left off the ballot amidst accusations of sexual misconduct). If I had a vote, I would go for Chalamet, who was fantastic in *Call Me By Your Name* and also provided a youthful dose of nihilism in *Lady Bird*. Oldman, however, appears to have this locked up for his commanding portrayal of Winston Churchill in *Darkest Hour*.

Prediction: Gary Oldman, *Darkest Hour*

Best actress in a leading role

This is another stacked category, but one that also has probably been decided already. Saoirse Ronan now has three Oscar nominations at the age of 23, but, barring a sizeable upset, her golden statue moment will have to wait. Margot Robbie was similarly excellent in *I, Tonya* and would be a front-runner in a different year, but in 2017, the odds are not in her favor. Sally Hawkins carried *The Shape of Water* as a deaf custodian who falls in love with a sea creature, and Meryl Streep also gets a cursory nod for her work in *The Post* (although I would have rather seen Jessica Chastain or Haley Lu Richardson in her place for *Molly's Game* and *Columbus*, respectively). If Oldman is a lock in his category, however, Frances McDormand might as well be a steel vault in hers. She has already won a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) award and a Golden Globe for her performance in *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, and if precedent holds up, she will win her second Academy Award next month.

Prediction: Frances McDormand, *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*

Best actor in a supporting role

This category is a bevy of famous names, but the least known of the five is most likely to take home the prize. Willem Dafoe, Richard Jenkins, Woody Harrelson, and Christopher Plummer are all deserving nominees, but Sam Rockwell should give *Three Billboards* its second acting win of the night here, edging out Harrelson (his co-star) and Plummer (who replaced Kevin Spacey on short notice for *All the Money in the World* in the wake of sexual misconduct accusations). Dafoe has a chance to pull off the upset, but Rockwell's nuanced and darkly comic portrayal of a truly bad cop was the best supporting work by a male actor this year.

Prediction: Sam Rockwell, *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*

Best actress in a supporting role

Allison Janney and Laurie Metcalf both play polarizing mothers in their nominated roles, so it is only right that they face off on the ballot for this award. Janney seems to have the clear edge at the moment, and while her performance in *I, Tonya* is certainly Oscar-worthy, I personally would choose Metcalf in this spot. Janney plays LaVona Fay Golden, the mother of Tonya Harding, and convincingly embodies the abuse, poverty, and selfishness that dominated both women's lives. The character, however, is absent for large stretches of the movie, and her lack of screen time gives LaVona virtually zero redeeming qualities. With more opportunities for character development, Janney could have run away with this category, but in comparison to Metcalf, a constant presence in *Lady Bird*, it just doesn't feel like the audience was given enough. For her part, Metcalf was superb as Lady Bird's mother — at once loving and judgemental, fulfilled and bitter. In a tight race, her final scene in the movie — a silent, tearful shot of her driving away from the airport after dropping off her daughter to go to college — gives her the edge in my eyes. It would be an upset, but I am going with my gut and choosing Metcalf to win.

Prediction: Laurie Metcalf, *Lady Bird*

Best director

Looking at the nominees for this category, it is clear that 2017 was an unusually fine year for film. Paul Thomas Anderson earns a surprising (but deserved) nomination for the late-blooming *Phantom Thread*, while two newcomers, Greta Gerwig and Jordan Peele, solidified their status as exciting innovators in their directorial debuts, *Lady Bird* and *Get Out*, respectively. Lastly, there is Christopher Nolan for the exquisitely shot, minimalist, and unrelentingly tense *Dunkirk*, as well as Guillermo del Toro for *The Shape of Water*. Nolan will win this award someday, but this is del Toro's year. *The Shape of Water* is entirely his, and the vision, precision, and meticulous execution behind it is evident in every shot. It is a film that is hard to look away from because of its beauty, its characters, and the palpable love that went into its creation.

Prediction: Guillermo del Toro, *The Shape of Water*

Stay tuned for more predictions in the next issue!

Woman to Watch For: Saoirse Ronan

by Josie Blatt '21
A&E Editor

This week's Woman to Watch For is 23 year-old actress Saoirse Ronan. She is most recently known for her starring role as Christine "Lady Bird" McPherson in Greta Gerwig's *Lady Bird*. Ronan received an immense amount of critical acclaim for this role, including the Golden Globe award for Best Actress and an Academy award nomination. Moreover, A. O. Scott of *The New York Times* wrote: "Ronan navigates each swerve in Lady Bird's story with an uncanny combination of self-confidence and discovery. She is as spontaneous and unpredictable as an actual 17-year-old [...] which suggests an altogether stupefying level of craft."

Ronan's on screen debut was in the Irish television drama, *The Clinic*, in 2003, when she was just 8 years old. While she started in television, the bulk of Ronan's career has been in film. She has appeared in 22 movies from 2007-2017. Highlights include her lead role as Eilis Lacey, a young Irish immigrant in the 1950s in the 2016 film *Brooklyn*, and her supporting role as 13 year-old Briony Tallis in the 2008 film *Atonement*. Ronan earned Academy Award nominations for both of these roles.

On Dec. 2. 2017, Ronan hosted *Saturday Night Live*. Ronan was an excellent host as she is effortlessly funny. In her monologue, Ronan performed a song about how to pronounce her first name (rhymes with inertia!).

She also had a brief career as a stage actress, making her Broadway debut as the lead role of Abigail Williams in the 2016 revival of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. Ronan's performance was memorable and acclaimed.

In addition to her robust career, Ronan is known for her charming wit, adorably awkward personality, and her loveable thick Irish accent. During a recent interview with Ellen Degeneres, Ronan played Ellen's game of "Who'd You Rather?" She had to pick between two pictures of celebrities that kept changing, and decide who she would rather date. Admitting she doesn't have much experience dating, Ronan took the game perhaps a bit too seriously. At one point she had to choose between Timothée Chalamet and Harry Styles. "Let me stick with Timmy because, you know, even if it's just a platonic relationship, I think we can have a nice companionship together [...] and Harry's on the road a lot," she said. It's moments like these that are making America fall in love with Saoirse Ronan.

Ronan, an only child, was born in the Bronx, New York City, but her family moved to Dublin, Ireland when she was three years old. She currently lives in Greystones, County Wicklow, Ireland and is a dual citizen of Ireland and the United States. She is also a philanthropist as she is an active ambassador of the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Ronan is clearly a woman to watch out for, and the press seems to agree. In 2016, she was featured in Forbes's "30 Under 30" list and in *Time's* "Next Generation Leaders" list. Ronan's next two films, *Mary Queen of Scots* and a film adaptation of Anton Chekhov's play *The Seagull* will premier in late 2018. Keep an eye out for Ronan as she continues to take the entertainment world by storm!

PHOTO COURTESY OF PA IMAGES

Saoirse Ronan won the award for best actress in *Lady Bird* at the Golden Globes.

CAB brings comedy acts, The Lucas Bros and Mookie Thompson, for FebFest

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

To celebrate the annual tradition of FebFest, a time where various student organizations host events during the month of February to bring the community together, the Campus Activities Board (CAB) Comedy and the Social Traditions commitee will bring three comedians to campus: duo and twin act The Lucas Bros as well as opener Mookie Thompson.

The Lucas Bros, otherwise known as identical twins Kenny and Keith Lucas, were born in raised in New Jersey. Having graduated with honors in philosophy from the College of New Jersey, the two also went to law school but dropped out in the middle of their third year to pursue comedy full-time. The brothers had increasing roles to showcase their comedy in stand-up, film, and television, and have increased in popularity and success ever since.

In beginning the acting component of their careers, The Lucas Bros' first official appearance was on Fox's *Arrested Development* in 2013 where they played one of the many set of twins in that episode. They then moved on to write and produce their own show called *Lucas Bros. Moving Co.* that ran for two seasons on Fox as a comedic animated television series, where the twins run a moving company out of their van. They also played roles on Fox's *The Grinder* alongside actors Rob Lowe and Fred Savage as well as Netflix series *Lady Dynamite* based off of the life of fellow comedian Maria Bamford.

Most notable is their role in *22 Jump Street*, where they played the endearing Kenny and Keith Yang who lived in the dorm across the hall from the main protagonists, who were played by Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. In their first scene, the two would constantly find themselves mimicking each other's movements and speaking at the same time. They would constantly be surprised by their connection, at one point both saying, "Oh snap, man, we're still saying the same thing. Carrots. Pumpernickel. Glow sticks. Twins!" Even after the film revealed that they were part of a drug dealing business and almost set to die by the hands of their ringleader, they still held their casual, comedic personalities, playing jinx with guns pointed to their faces.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NBC

The Lucas Bros performed in 2017 on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.*

Their references to drugs didn't end in 2017. In the same year, the two released the Netflix special *Lucas Brothers: On Drugs*. In addition to mentioning their roles in the popular *22 Jump Street* comedy, The Lucas Bros focused on stories of race, the police, and of course, drugs. With their easygoing and casual attitude, they manage to present a political satire in a witty and amusing way. The success of the special even earned it the title of "ninth best comedy special of 2017" by music and entertainment publication *Paste Magazine*.

One might wonder: how do they do it? How do siblings (who probably also fight over sharing food, sharing clothes, sharing personal belongings, sharing drugs) manage to share the stage in front of hundreds of audience members at every venue and thousands of viewers every video?

The Lucas Bros portray themselves as edgy — not only because of their unique choice to show up on stage together rather than try pursuing separate careers, which is rare in comedy, but also because they do choose to talk about topics like race, the police, and other controversial topics of society so bluntly. Even when they aren't talking about more serious issues, they still make every story sound interesting and unexpected. Most notably, their ability to bounce off each other so quickly and smoothly (it's that twin connection) is what audience members should really watch out for during their show, as it's rare to have a pair of comedians and rare to have that pair present so well.

Audience members will also be able to witness the hilarity of Mookie Thompson, a native New Yorker who will be opening for The Lucas Bros. Having worked alongside them in the previously mentioned *Lucas Bros Moving Co.*, Thompson jokes about a similar appreciation for drugs as he "embraces a weed-fueled slacker lifestyle to give audiences a look at life with no responsibilities," a description he was given to promote his headlining role at the McGuire's Comedy Club.

Thompson has also been featured on MTV's *Worldstar TV* with his comedy, and was recognized with "Best Stand Up" at the LA Comedy Festival in 2015. He has also performed on FXX, *Friends of the People* on Tru TV, and at SXSW in Austin, Texas.

Anyone interested in witnessing these two incredible acts should attend the CAB Comedy event with The Lucas Bros and Mookie Thompson on Monday, Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. in Wellin Hall. Admission is free.

Cellist Seth Parker Woods stops at the Hill during his tour of the musical world

by Natasha Lane '21
Contributing Writer

The silent room filled with music almost instantaneously as cellist Seth Parker Woods sat center stage, focused solely on his music. Seth Parker Woods is a renowned cellist, well known for his musical versatility and ability to perfect many genres. His master of the art of music and "willingness to go to the brink" as *The Guardian* put it, is what separates him from the rest of the pack. For Parker Woods, going to the brink means changing the way the audience views the cello, and redefining the way an artist uses the instrument. He uses visual and physical mediums to complement his music and give his audience a more immersive experience. Because his work is so abstract, Parker Woods finds it hard to find a singular label for what he does. His mission is to push the boundaries of the "classical cellist" to fit a wider spectrum of sounds and senses, and finds the increasing number of sounds and performing styles in modern music to be very exciting.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Seth Parker Woods is a renowed cellist who is known for his wide range of genres.

Through his use of art forms such as choreography, electronic music and visual arts, Woods' musical vision is more theatrical than any musician currently on the scene.

While he was trained in classical music, he is making way for a new type of music that combines the classical with the contemporary. Interested in both the cello and dance at a young age, Parker Woods spent most of his adolescence figuring out ways to push the boundaries of his classical training. After graduating from Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and Julliard's pre-professional program, he went on to study music in college, and later received a PhD from Huddersfield University in England. His thesis "Almost Human: the study of physical processes and the performance of a prosthetic spine," compares the intention and movement of musicians and dancers to create new works for the cello, dancers, and electronics.

Since its release in November 2016, Parker Woods' debut album *asinglewordisnotenough* has gained international acclaim. He has played alongside performers such as Peter Gabriel, Lady Gaga, Adele, and the New York City Ballet. He has also played venues as prestigious as the Royal Albert Hall in London, England. After performing in orchestras for years, *asinglewordisnotenough* marks the inception of his career as a solo artist. Since its debut, he has been touring the world and finding inspiration for new music.

His sound is unique and easily distinguishable, and he has secured his position in the artistic world as a performer who blends the classical and contemporary to form a new sound all his own. Parker Woods' visit to Hamilton was well-received and listening to his music was a wonderful experience.

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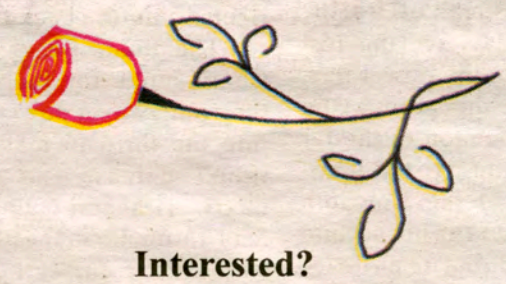

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Swimming and diving teams prepare for Feb. 23-26 NESCAC Championships

from Swimming, page 16

first place in the men's 200 yard backstroke with a time of 2:11.42, blowing away his competitors in this solo event by a four second lead.

Miller also performed well in his leg of the 200 medley earlier in the meet, and took second place in the 100 yard backstroke touching the wall at 1:00.25.

Madeleine Lepesant came in second in the women's 200 yard butterfly with a time of 2:16.97, though she would have taken first in any normal competition; on Saturday, Lepesant had to race against RPI's Shanny Lin, who came in a full ten seconds ahead of any other swimmer in the 200 butterfly.

In the men's 500 freestyle, Case Tatro finished in second place with a time of 5:05.11 behind RPI's Trevor Maxfield. Tatro was also a member of the second place relay team earlier in Saturday's meet.

Isabel Lepesant came in a close second in the women's 100 yard butterfly with a time of 1:02.00, closely followed by Lepesant at 1:04.51.

Toward the end of the meet, in the women's 200 yard race, Hamilton's Martin barely lost to Amanda Wang of RPI. Martin touched the wall after 2:16.09, a heartbreaking .21 seconds after Wang's finish.

The men's team lost to Rensselaer at the final score of 226-71, and the women's team also fell to RPI 215-83.

These losses, however, are to be expected when facing as talented and powerful a team as RPI's. Saturday's meet provided the Continentals with an example of the kind of competition they will be facing in two weeks at the NESCAC Championships, and sets their focus on what could lay beyond NESCAC — the NCAA Championships.

The men's and women's teams now look forward to Feb. 16, 17, and 18, when they will travel to Williams College for the NESCAC Championship.

Success there will not come easily, but after the performances this weekend and the one before it, it would be no surprise to see the Continentals grab at least a few first place finishes in the championships.

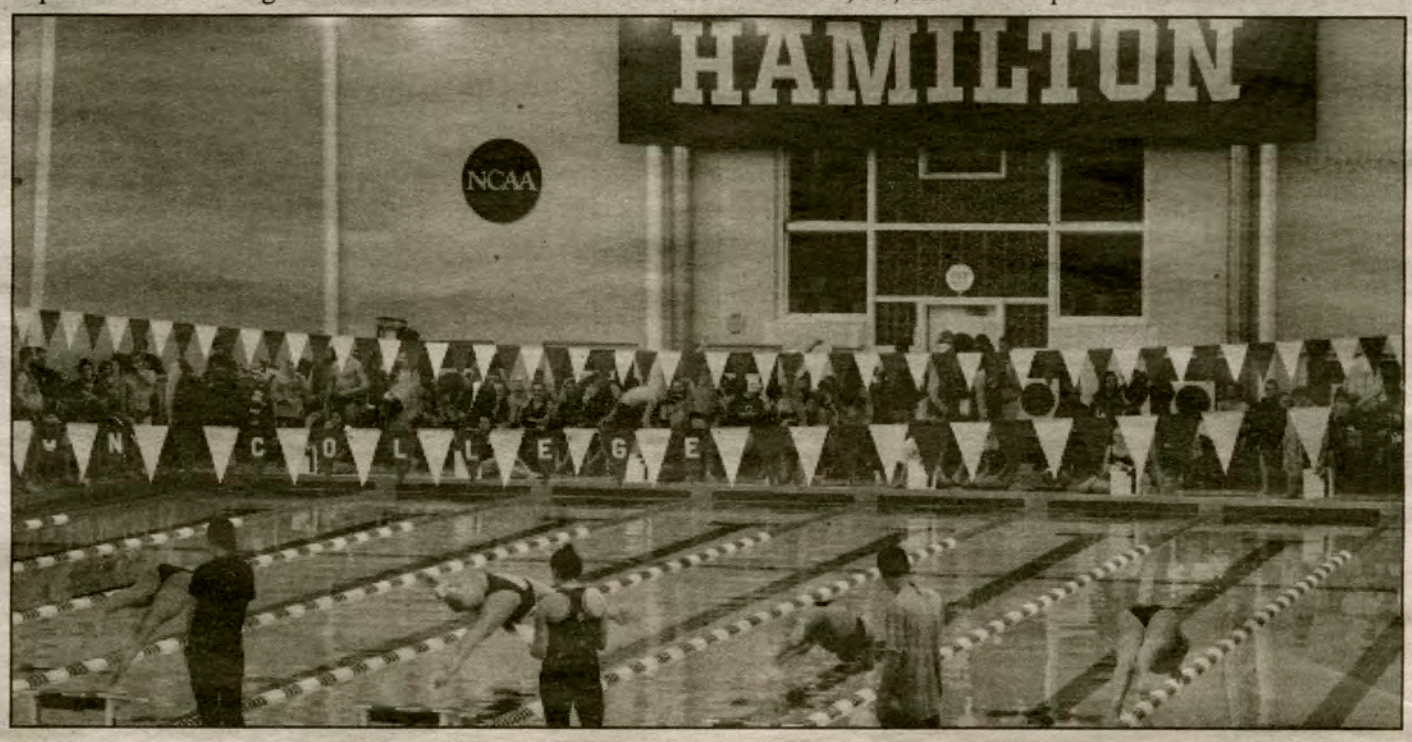

PHOTO BY JERRY TANG '21

The Bristol Pool played host to RPI for the final time this winter.

Men's hockey to celebrate 100 years of hockey on Feb. 10 at Clinton Arena

*from **Hockey**, page 16*

Brochu received a breakout pass from Neil Conway '18, carrying the puck up through the neutral zone and into Hamilton's offensive end. Brochu fed Willett for a one-timer in the slot, which he rang off the post and into the back of the net.

This was Hamilton's second tilt against Colby this season, the first of which they won 3-0 back on Jan. 5 in Waterville, Maine. The next day, they downed Bowdoin 5-1 in Brunswick, Maine, and they would take the win in similar fashion on Saturday Feb. 3 by a score of 5-3.

The Continentals got off to the right start on Saturday, scoring just 5:52 into the first. On the powerplay, Willet fed Allen at the point, who dished the puck to Gagnon in the far face-off circle. Gagnon wristed it underneath the glove of the Bowdoin goalie and into the net for his second goal of the weekend and team-leading thirteenth goal of the season.

In a five goal second period, the Continentals and the Polar Bears traded goals, until Hamilton took the lead for good with 2:32 left to play.

Bowdoin tied the game at one just three minutes into the period, but Hamilton regained the lead three minutes later on a goal from Nick Ursitti '20. A shot by Ian Nichols '19 from the blue line was stopped but not collected by the Bowdoin goaltender, but Ursitti was there to give it the extra push across the goal line.

Halfway through the period, Bowdoin was again able to tie up the score at two, but this would be their last burst as Ursitti and Bray put away goals just 1:30 apart to end the period.

Nichols dug the puck out of the corner and backhanded it to Ursitti in front of the net, who wristed it up and over the Bowdoin goalie for a 3-2 lead. Bray delivered the game-winner with just 47 seconds left in the second when Josh Labonte '21 took a shot from the blue line that he deflected into the back of the net.

The Polar Bears challenged the Continentals for the last time when they put away a power play goal 5:49 into the third to make it 4-3. Hamilton's defense and goaltender Anthony Tirabassi '20 preserved the lead throughout the third until Conway hit the empty net goal with 27 seconds left making it 5-3. Tirabassi had 29 saves against Bowdoin and 24 against Colby. In 12 games this season, he owns a .929 save percentage and 1.88 goals against average.

The Continentals received goals from six different players on the weekend. Tyler Bruneteau '18 said the team seems to have found their stride now; "A bunch of different guys are starting to finish, which is good as we find our stride to finish out this season. We are focusing on using our speed to our advantage and keeping every play simple. As we prepare for next weekend we hope to continue taking steps in the right direction and building off what we have accomplished."

Next weekend, the Continentals face Connecticut College on Saturday Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. at Clinton Arena and Tufts University on Sunday Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. at Sage Rink. Saturday's game is a celebration of 100 years of Hamilton College and Clinton hockey. Hamilton will provide buses for college students to get to the game.

Hamilton fell to Connecticut College 3-0 back on Jan. 13 and to Tufts 5-3 on Jan. 14. Bruneteau said, "we owe both these teams a better performance than we gave them last time." If the Continentals can pull out a win against the Camels on Saturday night, they will put themselves in a good playoff position going into the last weekend of the regular season.

PHOTO BY LILI CHRISTIE '19

Hamilton seeks to earn a home playoff game with a strong end of season push against NESCAC opponents.

Squash teams enjoy home-court advantage at NESCAC Championships

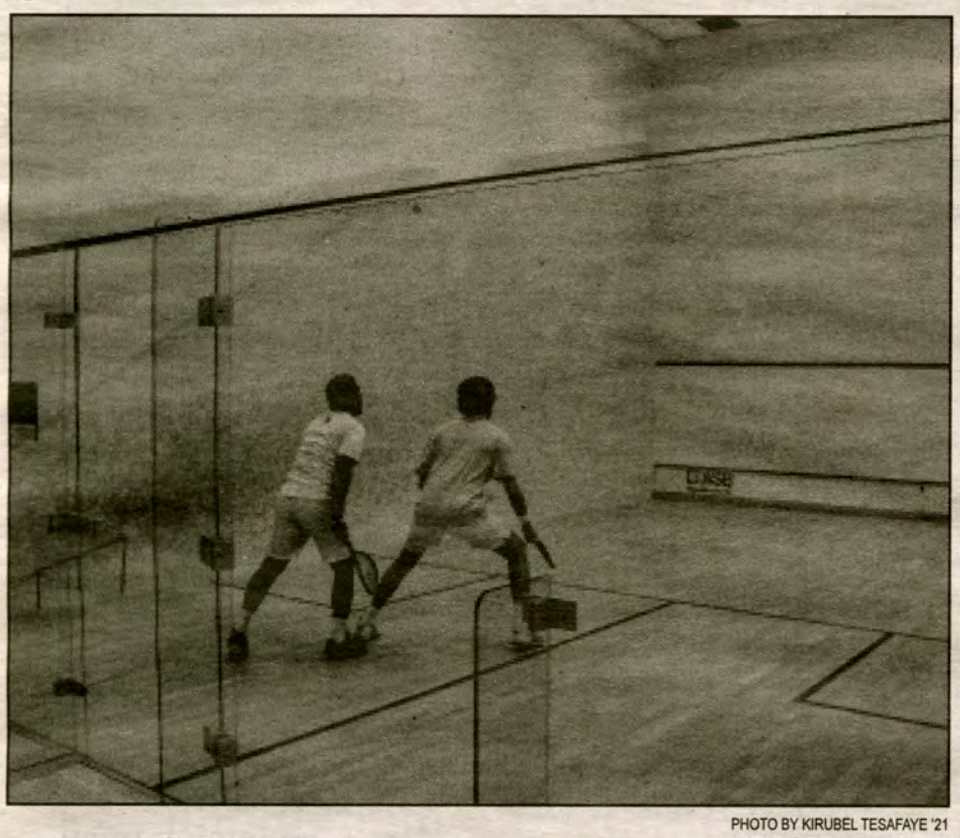

PHOTO BY KIRUBEL TESAFAYE '21

Nicholas Conzelman '20 attempts to finesse an unreturnable shot.

by Robert Berk '20
Staff Writer

This weekend was a huge one for Hamilton College squash, as the Continentals hosted both the men's and women's NESCAC Championships. Going into the weekend, the men's team was ranked seventh in the NESCAC and 26th in the nation. The women's team was ranked eighth in the conference and 22nd in the nation.

Both teams played on Friday in the first round of the conference championships. The men's team played against Connecticut College. The Camels were the ten seed and ranked 30th in the country. The Continentals started the weekend on the right foot, as they took care of business and won handily, seven games to two. Hamilton's top three on the ladder led the charge. Colin O'Dowd '19 won in three tough games. His scores were 13 to 11, 11 to nine, and 12 to ten. Callum Sondhi '20 also won in three games, with the scores, 11 to four, 11 to six, and 12 to ten. John Sawyers '21 dropped the first game five to 11 before winning the next three 11 to eight, 11 to three, and the final game was a thriller, 14 to 12. Fourth in the ladder, Nick Conzelman '20 fought hard in all four games, but unfortunately lost. Tristan Chaix '20 plats fifth and won in three straight games. He was always in control of the match, the scores were, 11 to nine, 11 to three, and 11 to five. Atticus Jones '19 and Ward Urban '18 both won their matches in four games. Will Jordan '20 absolutely crushed his opponent in three dominant games, 11 to eight, 11 to five, and 11 to one. Jarrod Gerstein '20 won his exhibition match in four games. The women's team played against the Mules of Colby College. They were ranked ninth in the conference and 24th in the country. The teams top three seeds fought hard, but unfortunately only Charlotte Zonis '19, who is second in the ladder, won her match in four tough games, 11 to six, nine to 11, 13 to 11, and 11 to seven. The Continentals dominated all the way through the rest of the ladder. Grace Munschauer '18 plays fourth in the ladder and won in three games, 15 to 13, 12 to 10, and 11 to eight. Katherine Bauer '18 dropped the first game seven to 11 but then roared back to win the next three, 11 to seven, 11 to seven, and 11 to six. Liesl Guenther '21 won the first two games, 11 to eight and 11 to nine, before losing the third nine to eleven, but remained confident and won the fourth and final game 11 to five. Marina Hartnick '18 and Danielle Reisley '18 both won in three straight games.

Following their wins, both of the teams moved into the NESCAC Championship quarterfinals.

The men's team faced off against Bates College. The Bobcats were the second seed in the conference and 18th in the nation. The Continentals struggled on Saturday morning, as O'Dowd '19 was the only Hamilton player to win his match. It was a back and forth affair. He lost the first game two to 11, but fought back to win the second and third games. 11 to seven and 11 to eight, respectively. O'Dowd lost the fourth game five to 11, which forced a divisive fifth game. He kept his composure and won 11 to six. Unfortunately, the Continentals, as a team, lost eight to one. Later in the day, the team faced off against Colby College in a consolation round. The Mules were sixth seeded in the conference and 24th in the nation. They won in all spots on the ladder and took the match nine to nothing. On Sunday, the men's team wrapped up their NESCAC Championship play in a seventh place match against Bowdoin College. The Continentals were favored over the eighth seeded and 27th ranked Polar Bears. However, the Continentals seemed out of energy from the weekend and lost nine to zero. Gerstein '20 won his exhibition match in five thrilling games. He lost the intense first game ten to 12, but rallied back to win the next two games, 11 to six and 11 to nine, respectively. After dropping the fourth game four to 11 he came back to win the final fifth game, 11 to five. Following the tough competition, I spoke with Conzelman '20 who said: "The team was looking forward to more soda pops." Jordan '20 added that the team's goal the rest of the season is to "be great sports and win more than we lose."

The women's team played against Trinity College in the NESCAC quarterfinal. The Bantams were in first in the conference and third in the nation. The Continentals managed to win two games against Trinity. Hartnick '18 won her matchup in four games. She won the first game 11 to three, but then lost four to 11. The third and fourth games were very close, she won the third 11 to eight, and the fourth, 14 to 12. Reisley '18 won her match in three straight games. The women's team faced off against Tufts University in a consolation game later in the day. The Jumbos were the fifth seed in the conference and ranked 17th in the country. Only Hartnick '18 was able to win a her match. For the second time that day she won in four games. She won the first game 11 to five, lost the second two to 11, and won the third and fourth, 11 to seven and 11 to four.

On Sunday, the team played Wesleyan College in the seventh place match. The Cardinals were the seventh seed entering the weekend and 21st in the nation. It was an incredibly close game, and, unfortunately, the Continentals lost five to four. Munschauer '18 won in four games including an incredible 18-16 first game. She lost the second, nine to 11, but won the third and fourth, 11 to six and 11 to eight. Guenther '21 and Reisley '18 both won in five games. Hartnick '18 completed her perfect weekend and won in three straight games, 11 to nine, 11 to three and 11 to six. Molly Pivirotto '18 said, "We had a really great weekend at NESCACs. Colby was a great match for us as we had seen them earlier in the season and were familiar with their playing styles. The following matches against Trinity and Tufts were very challenging for us however we put up a fight. Although the score of the last match against Wesleyan does not reflect our success, our team played really well it came down to the last match."

This upcoming Saturday, both teams will have their final two home matches of the season. They will take on Vassar College at 2 p.m. and Colgate University at 4 p.m.

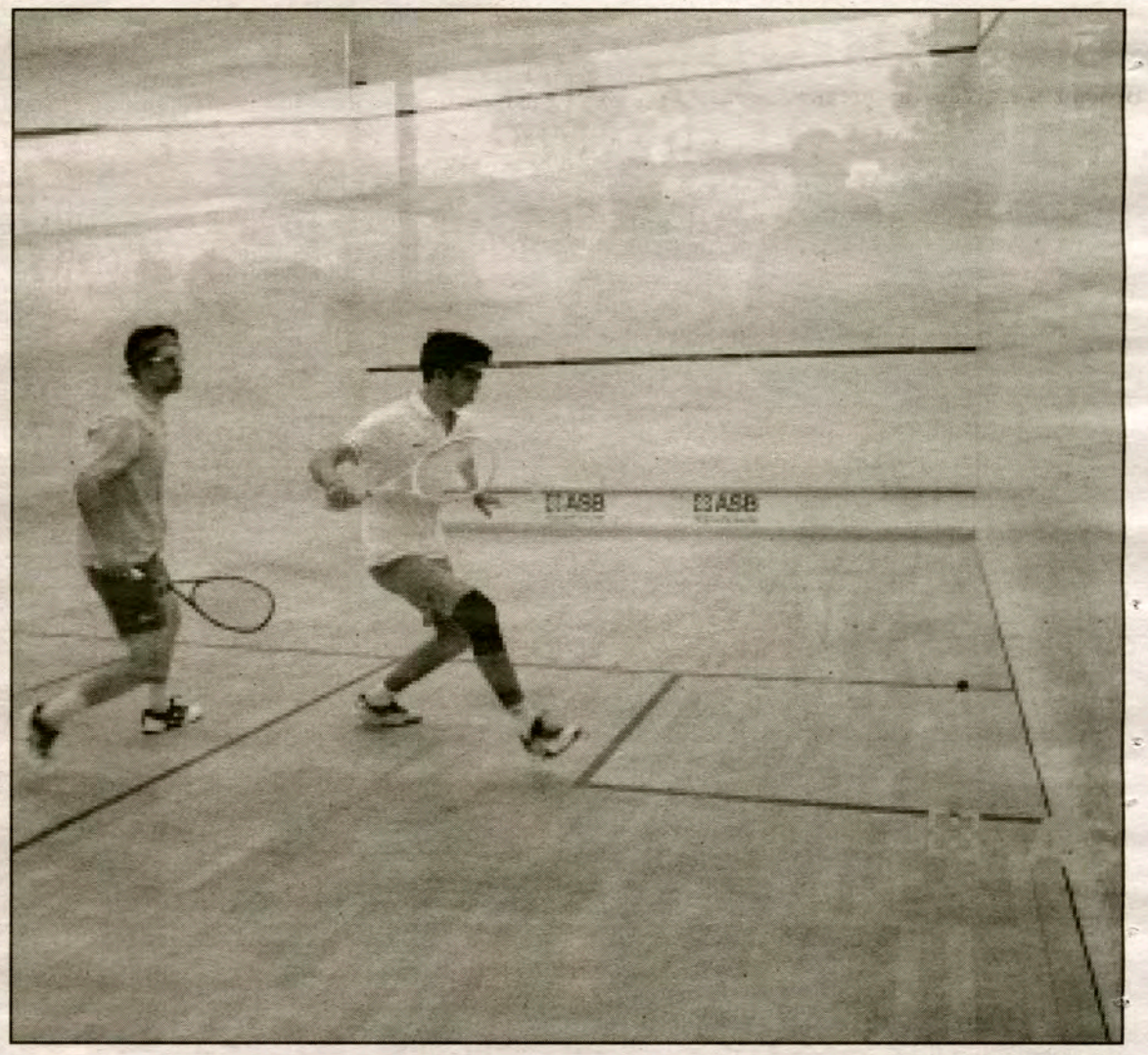

PHOTO BY LEVANA LYU '21

Atticus Jones '19 (left) had a strong weekend against tough conference competition.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
February 8, 2018

Men's hockey sweeps weekend with victories against Colby and Bowdoin

by Julia Booth '19
Contributing Writer

	1	2	3	F
Colby	1	1	1	2
Hamilton	**1**	**1**	**2**	**4**

	1	2	3	F
Bowdoin	0	2	1	3
Hamilton	**1**	**3**	**1**	**5**

The Hamilton men's hockey team had an exciting weekend against Colby College and Bowdoin College as they returned to their winning ways. The team is 13-6-1 overall and 7-6-1 in the NESCAC where they sit in the fifth spot out of ten teams.

On Friday Feb. 2, the Mules struck first and put up a fight until the third when Hamilton was able to jump and stay ahead for a 4-2 win.

Just 1:31 into the first period, Colby snuck a wrist shot past Hamilton's Anthony Tirabassi '20 from the face off circle to claim a 1-0 lead. The Continental's Jon Berniers '21 would respond 14 minutes later, scoring his second collegiate goal. Rory Gagnon '19 dug the puck out from behind the net and dished it to Sterling Bray '20 who wound around the face off circle and hit Berniers in the slot. Berniers wristed it past a Colby defender and goaltender to tie the game 1-1 in front of an energetic Friday night crowd.

Hamilton took its first lead of the game 9:09 into the second when Brandon Willett '18 broke through with his eighth of the season. Gagnon fed the puck to Jason Brochu '19 at the top of the zone. Brochu took a slapshot that Willett was able to redirect over the shoulder of the Colby goaltender and into the net giving Hamilton a 2-1 lead.

With just 2:21 left in the second, Colby evened the score at 2-2 on a break-away goal. Sean Allen '21 was denied on his shot from the point, and the rebound bounced to Colby player Michael Rudolf, who fed teammate Justin Grillo in the neutral zone.

Hamilton bounced back just under halfway through the third, taking the lead for good when Gagnon shoved home a rebound for his first goal of the weekend. Blayne Oliver '20 and Gagnon teamed up to dig the puck out of the corner, getting it to Berniers at the point. Berniers fed it across the blue line to Bray, who took a shot that was denied — Gagnon would not be as he pushed the rebound past the goaltender for a 3-2 lead.

With five minutes remaining, Willett added to the lead.

*see **Hockey**, page 14*

PHOTO BY LILI CHRISTIE '19

Alternate captain T.J. Daigler '18 picked up an assist against Bowdoin on Saturday.

Swimming and diving teams fall to RPI in final home meet of winter season

by Cliff Musial '21
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Feb. 3, the Hamilton men's and women's swimming and diving teams hosted Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in a dual meet at the Bristol Pool, in the final home meet of the season. Both the men's and women's teams were coming off a narrow loss to Rochester Institute of Technology on Sunday Jan. 28, where Madeleine Lepesant '19 of the women's team won the 200-yard butterfly, Sadie Logan '20 won the 100-yard freestyle, and Julia Martin '21 won the 200 individual medley. On the men's side, Ben Cooper '18 won the 100-yard backstroke, 200 yard backstroke, and 100 yard butterfly, Ben Kaplan '21 won the 200-fly and Evan Tatro '20 won the 200-yard individual medley.

After these strong performances last Sunday, the men and women were ready to take on the challenge of Rensselaer, whose dual meet record is 7-1 for men and 9-0 for women. The Continentals certainly did not expect the competition to be easy, and it certainly was not, but by facing such a powerful swimming and diving team, Hamilton will be far more prepared going into the NESCAC Championships on Feb. 16, 17 and 18.

Saturday's meet commenced with the 200-yard medley relays, in which RPI teams won on both the men's and women's sides. The Hamilton women's team of Logan, Martin, Isabel Lepesant '21, and Emma Raynor '18 came in a close second at a time of 1:54.10, three seconds behind RPI's winning team. The men's team of Cooper, Tripp Miller '18, Evan Tatro, and Case Tatro also came in second with a time of 1:39.34, less than one second behind the winning team. However, in the next event, the 1000 yard freestyle, Jess Halladay '18 won the women's final with a time of 11:13.03, and Trevor Pearson '18 won the men's final with a time of 10:27.07, both with considerable leads.

In the women's 200 yard freestyle, Raynor took second place to RPI's Danielle Suave with a time of 2:02.04, a great swim following her performance earlier in the 200 medley relay. Logan, also a part of 200 medley relay team with Raynor, took second in the 100 yard backstroke with a time of 101.90.

Later on in the meet, Miller took

*see **Swimming**, page 14*

PHOTO BY JERRY TANG '21

Missy Paragamian '18 has been excellent on the board this season.